

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of measuring the heat conductivity of an object, comprising:
generating heat between the object and a heat resistant material;
causing heat to flow through the object and the heat resistant material; and
calculating the heat conductivity of the object from a temperature difference between at least two locations spaced apart about or inside the heat resistant material.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the heat generation area is divided into a central area and an area surrounding the central area.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the externally exposed surface of the heat resistant material is covered with a cover member.
4. An instrument for measuring the heat conductivity of an object to be measured, comprising:
a heat resistant material having heat resistance;
a temperature difference measuring unit capable of measuring a temperature difference between two locations spaced apart about or within the heat resistant material; and
a heat generating unit placed on the surface of the heat resistant material, wherein the heat resistant material is placed such that the heat generating unit comes in contact with the surface of the object to be measured, and the heat conductivity of the object to be measured is obtained from a temperature difference between two points of the heat resistant material.
5. The instrument of claim 4, wherein the heat generating unit comprises a main heat generating section for generating heat in a central area and an auxiliary heat generating section for generating heat in an area surrounding the main heat generating section.

6. A method of determining the suitability of a heat insulating material, comprising an inspection step in which heat is generated between the heat insulating material and a heat resistant material and caused to flow through the heat insulating material and the heat resistant material, and a measurement step in which the heat conductivity of the heat insulating material is obtained from a temperature difference between at least two points of the heat resistant material.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the heat generation area is divided into a central area and an area surrounding the central area.